

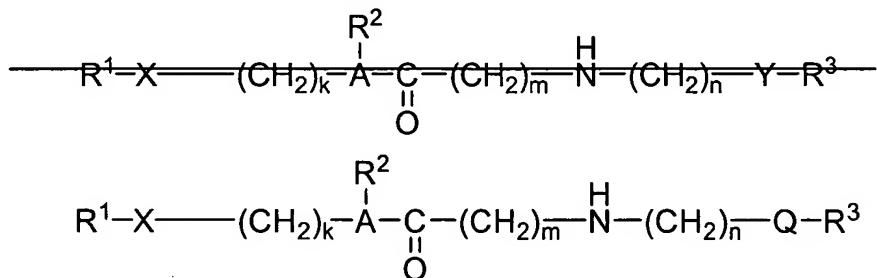
AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

On page 1, after line 6, add the following paragraph:

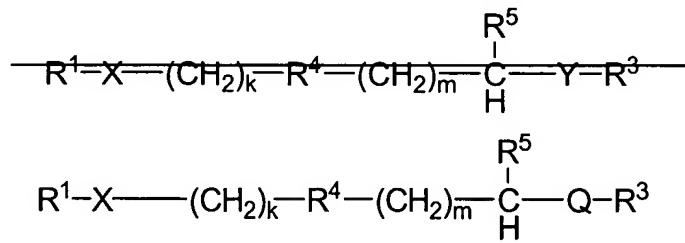
STATEMENT AS TO RIGHTS TO INVENTIONS MADE UNDER FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

This invention was made with the support of NIH grants numbered CA31841, CA31845, and CA65237. Accordingly, the U.S. Government has certain rights in this invention.

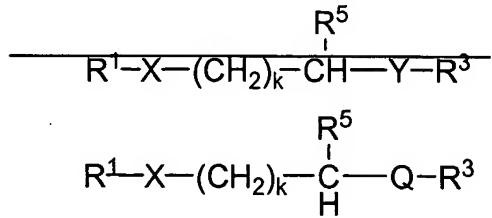
Please replace the structure on page 12, line 1 with the following corrected structure:



Please replace the structure on page 12, line 2 with following corrected structure:



Please replace the structure on page 12, line 3 with the following corrected structure:



Please replace the remainder of the paragraph on page 12, beginning with line 5, with the following corrected text:

wherein: R¹ is the biologically active compound; X is a linkage formed between a functional group on the biologically active compound and a terminal functional group on the linking moiety; Y-Q is a linkage formed from a functional group on the transport moiety and a functional group on the linking moiety; A is N or CH; R² is hydrogen, alkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, acyl or allyl; R³ is the transport moiety; R⁴ is S, O, NR⁶ or CR⁷R⁸; R⁵ is H, OH, SH or NHR⁶; R⁶ is hydrogen, alkyl, aryl, acyl or allyl; R⁷ and R⁸ are independently hydrogen or alkyl; k and m are independently either 1 or 2; and n is an integer ranging from 1 to 10. Non-limiting examples of the X and Y-Q linkages are (in either orientation): -C(O)O-, -C(O)NH-, -OC(O)NH-, -S-S-, -C(S)O-, -C(S)NH-, -NHC(O)NH-, -SO₂NH-, -SONH-, phosphate, phosphonate and phosphinate. One of skill in the art will appreciate that when the biological agent has a hydroxy functional group, then X will preferably be -OC(O)- or -OC(O)NH-. Similarly, when the linking group is attached to an amino terminus of the transport moiety, Y-Q will preferably be -C(O)NH-, -NHC(O)NH-, -SO₂NH-, -SONH- or -OC(O)NH- and the like. In each of the groups provided above, NH is shown for brevity, but each of the linkages (X and Y-Q) can contain substituted (e.g., N-alkyl or N-acyl) linkages as well.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 13, line 17 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Accordingly, for structure 1, the following substituents are preferred: A is N; R² is benzyl; k, m and n are 1; X is -OC(O)- and YQ is -C(O)NH-.

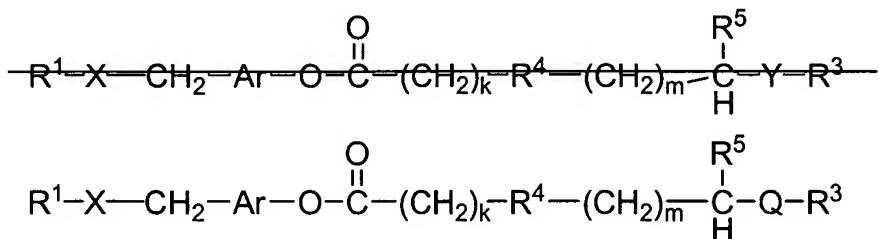
Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 14, line 5 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Accordingly, in one group of preferred embodiments, the conjugate is represented by formula 2, in which X is -OC(O)-; YQ is -C(O)NH-; R⁴ is S; R⁵ is NHR⁶; and the subscripts k and m are each 1. In another group of preferred embodiments, the conjugate is represented by formula 2, in which X is -OC(O)-; YQ is -NHC(O)-; R⁴ is S; R⁵ is CONH₂; and the subscripts k and m are each 1. Particularly preferred conjugates are those in which R⁶ is hydrogen, methyl, allyl, butyl or phenyl.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 14, line 15 with the following rewritten paragraph:

For structure 3, the following substituents are preferred: R⁵ is NHR⁶, wherein R⁶ is hydrogen, methyl, allyl, butyl or phenyl; k is 2; X is -C(O)O-; and YQ is -C(O)NH-.

Please replace the structure on page 15, line 7 with following corrected structure:



Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 15, line 22 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Preferably, the linking groups used in the conjugates of formula 4, are those in which Ar is an substituted or unsubstituted phenylene group; R⁴ is S; R⁵ is NHR⁶, wherein R⁶ is hydrogen, methyl, allyl, butyl, acetyl or phenyl; k and m are 1; X is -C(O)O-; and YQ is -C(O)O- or -C(O)NH-. More preferably, R⁶ is hydrogen or acetyl.